




DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0200


23 AUG 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Emphasis-Army Voting Assistance Program

1. We recently celebrated the independence of our Nation and the blessings of liberty that our founding fathers have provided. It is important that we emphasize the principal tenet of these causes—the right of the people to choose the leaders of their government. It is our duty, as leaders of the United States Army, to do everything we can to ensure Soldiers have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote. The November 2006 Federal Elections are fast approaching. Your responsibility is to provide all the support you can to ensure each of our Soldiers has the opportunity to cast a valid ballot.
2. Your organization should have a senior Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) (colonel or above, or a civilian equivalent) to manage this program. A VAO should be appointed to assist Soldiers and eligible family members at every level of your organization. The appointed VAO must be fully trained, aggressive, and prepared to provide all of the support necessary to successfully execute their duties.
3. Soldiers who want to vote may complete the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA Standard Form 76) or comply with the ballot request procedures enacted by the state in which they vote. The FPCA Standard Form 76, or other request, should be mailed as soon as possible. Completed ballots must be in the mail to the United States by 14 October 2006 for overseas voters. Soldiers registered to vote who have not received their state ballots by 14 October 2006 should complete the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB Standard Form 186). The FPCA and FWAB are available online at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/forms.html>.
4. Voting is both a privilege and responsibility of citizens in a democracy. Your personal involvement will ensure the success and effectiveness of this most important program.

  
Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

  
Francis J. Harvey  
Secretary of the Army

SUBJECT: Command Emphasis-Army Voting Assistance Program

DISTRIBUTION:  
HQDA PRINCIPALS

COMMANDERS:  
US ARMY EUROPE & 7th ARMY  
EIGHTH US ARMY  
US ARMY FORCES COMMAND  
US ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND  
US ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND  
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
US ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND  
US ARMY PACIFIC  
MILITARY SURFACE DEPLOYMENT & DISTRIBUTION COMMAND  
US ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COMMAND  
US ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND  
US ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND  
US ARMY MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
US ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND  
US ARMY RESERVE COMMAND  
US MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING COMMAND  
US ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
US ARMY TEST AND EVALUATION COMMAND

CF:  
DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD  
CHIEF, ARMY RESERVE  
SUPERINTENDENT, US MILITARY ACADEMY